

South Carolina

ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Demographics¹

Total Population in 1990: 3,486,310

Projection for the year 2000: 3,976,800

Estimated Population 1997: 3,760,181

Population by race and Hispanic origin:

RACE	1990
White	2,406,974
Black	1,039,884
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	8,246
Asian or Pacific Islander	22,382
All other races	9,217
Hispanic Origin	30,551

Politics²

Governor: James Hovis Hodges

Lieutenant Governor: Bob Peeler

Secretary of State: James M. Miles

Treasurer: Grady L. Patterson, Jr.

Attorney General: Charlie Condon

U.S. Senators: Ernest Hollings (D)

Strom Thurmond (R)

U.S. Representatives: Mark Sanford (R)

Floyd Spence (R)

Lindsey Graham (R)

Jim DeMint (R)

John Spratt (D)

James Clyburn (D)

Funding

- In Fiscal Year 1997, South Carolina received \$15,306,967 in Edward Byrne Formula Grants and for 166 Active Subgrant Awards.³
- South Carolina also received \$3,692,184 for FY 1997 Edward Byrne Discretionary Award for 10 Active Grant Awards.³
- South Carolina received \$7,663,607 in FY 1997 for the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants. State police received \$270,000, local government received \$44,614 totaling \$324,344.³

- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) grant funds (OJP/CPO):⁴

	<u>State Award</u>
FY 1996	\$ 473,667
FY 1997	\$ 534,789
FY 1998	\$1,114,960

- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Program and Juvenile accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) funds awarded that may be used for juvenile offender drug treatment and/or testing programs (OJJDP):⁴

		<u>State Award</u>
JJDP	FY 1996	\$ 855,000
	FY 1997	\$1,062,000
	FY 1998	\$1,182,000
JAIBG	FY 1998	\$3,422,300

- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block grant funds that may be used for offender treatment and/or aftercare programs (CSAT):⁴

	<u>State Award</u>
FY 1996	\$14,900,421
FY 1997	\$16,305,940
FY 1998	\$16,305,940

- McCormick County School District #1 in McCormick, South Carolina was awarded \$98,002 from ONDCP/OJJDP Drug-Free Communities Support Program for FY 1998. The awarded project aims to extend South Carolina's strategic plan to focus on growing alcohol and drug problems among community youth. This will bring about the implementation of the Coalition Advocating Drug Education (CADE) targeting 400 students in grades 5-8.⁵

Programs/Initiatives⁴

- South Carolina Department of Corrections randomly tests 1,600 inmates per month or about 7.5% of the total inmate population. All inmates testing positive are referred to a counselor who performs an assessment to determine a proper treatment modality. A graduated system of sanctions is used for continued positive tests.

Legislation⁶

- The 1981 Parole and Community Corrections Act required risk-based classification for parole decisions and community supervision, based funding on offender assessments, and effected early release to relieve prison overcrowding.
- The 1981 Youth Services Act created a single, statewide juvenile justice authority by merging agencies, prohibited the commitment of status offenders, and abolished confinement of children younger than 11.

- Truth-in-sentencing legislation implemented in 1996 abolished parole for certain crime and required violent offenders to serve 85% of their sentences. The legislature also passed a two/three strikes law requiring life sentences for most violent crimes on the second strike and for selected other offenses on the third strike.
- The 1997 legislature implemented laws and programs providing victims' rights and giving victims' rights constitutional amendment status.
- The Omnibus criminal justice Improvements Act of 1986 established restitution centers and shock probation, redefined conditions for early release, and redefined parole eligibility standards for violent offenders.

Drugs⁷

Drug of choice: marijuana

Geography, market, trafficking and prevalence:

South Carolina's proximity to Florida, the Caribbean, and the states bordering Mexico make it a prime target for importation and transit for drugs. Numerous airstrips make light, fixed-wing private planes good vehicles for airdrops of drug shipments from the Bahamas. The majority of drugs entering the state are transported to the northeast areas of the United States, with a portion being sold and consumed in South Carolina. The S.C. Law Enforcement Division indicated that there has been an increase in drug trafficking from the Texas area in the past few years. Because of the 5 major highways running through the state, S.C. has also become host to primary transportation routes from Texas to the northeast and between Florida and the north. Non-traditional organized crime remains the primary force behind drug trafficking in South Carolina. Jamaican "Posse" groups transport drugs from New York and other areas, and it is possible that their influence will be growing in the forthcoming years. As a result, information is being gathered on their group in an effort to head off the potential for increased crime and violence.

Marijuana is the drug of choice among persons in South Carolina, but not to be overlooked is the increase in the availability and use of crack cocaine. Availability of both drugs is good in all areas of the state; additionally, intelligence reports indicate that methamphetamine labs, previously centered in the northern part of the state, are now being found in other parts of the state as well. Methamphetamine is also being imported on an increasing basis from the West Coast.

Marijuana:

The drug of choice in South Carolina is marijuana. The plant grows both indoors and outdoors, or shipped into the State in 50 to 1,000 pound bulk quantities. Marijuana retails for \$800 to \$1,600 per pound. The plant is sometimes mixed with crack or heroin and smoked, or soaked in moonshine and taken orally. Mexican organizations are the leading importers of marijuana in the state, but Jamaican organizations are also expanding their business. Orders are often mailed to residents (including residents in nursing homes) who get paid \$200 for each packet received. Additionally, shrimp boats are harvesting air-dropped shipments of marijuana along with their daily take of shrimp.

Crack:

Crack and powdered cocaine is second in the state as the most abused drug and is prevalent throughout. Crack arrives in South Carolina by every means available - commercial carrier, private vehicles, U.S. mail, bus, train, and public transportation. It has had an effect on every area of the state in the form of increased violence and crime. The availability of the drug is good, with dealers receiving supplies from source cities such as Atlanta, Detroit, Los Angeles and New York. Crack is being sold in zip lock bags for \$10 to \$40 per dose. Cocaine in powdered form continues to be plentiful and sells for \$1,200 to \$1,600 per ounce.

Heroin:

Heroin supplies are increasing as the demographics of users broadens to include more white suburban middle class youth, who come into the inner city dealing points to purchase the drug. The primary method of use is still injection, but it is also snorted and used in combination with other drugs. Most heroin in South Carolina is white and from Southeast Asia. Heroin sells for \$20 to \$30 per dose or \$4,000 per ounce, and the major source city is New York.

Methamphetamine:

Usage is increasing and its followers are more than the traditional bikers and truck drivers. Based on the number of methamphetamine labs seized in recent years in the state, a conservative estimate of several million dosage units being manufactured and available is offered. The cost of methamphetamine ranged from \$1,000 to \$2,500 across the state (1995) and is typically trafficked and abused by whites, in their 30s to 50s, and typically blue collar workers.

Hallucinogens:

LSD and Ecstasy are becoming more popular among the high school and college students in South Carolina. One of the reasons that LSD's popularity continues to grow is that it can be purchased for \$2 to \$6 per dose.

Diverted Pharmaceuticals: The most widely abused licit drugs are hydrocodone, oxycodone, phentermine and phendimetrazine, followed by propoxyphene, diazepam, meperidine, alprazolam, hydromorphone, and bezodiazapine.

Drug Seizures

Number of marijuana plants eradicated and seized, arrests, and weapons and assets seized under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program:⁸

South Carolina		1997
Outdoor Operations		
	Indoor Operations	

Plots eradicated	374
Cultivated plants eradicated ^a	1,258
Ditchweed eradicated ^b	0
Grows seized	5
Plants eradicated	98
Total plants eradicated	12,356
Number of arrests	23
Number of weapons seized	0
Value of assets seized	0

^aMay include tended ditchweed; see footnote b.

^bDitchweed is a type of marijuana that grows wild.

- South Carolina Department of Public Safety's Aggressive Enforcement Team has seized 1,100 kilos of marijuana, 67 kilos of cocaine, 20,418 stolen vehicles, and more than \$1,8 million dollars in currency from drug offenders; these seizures involved 47,609 criminal cases.⁹

Crime¹⁰

Arrests in South Carolina reported by 257 agencies in 1997.

Offense	Under 18	Total all ages
Total all classes	30,266	218,788
Crime Index Total	10,734	40,099
Violent crime	1,835	12,834
Property crime	8,899	27,265
Murder	57	326
Forcible rape	90	672
Robbery	448	1,981
Aggravated assault	1,240	9,855
Burglary	2,256	5,985
Larceny-theft	6,120	20,077
Motor vehicle theft	428	967
Arson	95	236
Other assaults	4,333	27,253
Forgery and counterfeiting	118	2,504
Fraud	304	32,143
Embezzlement	6	106
Stolen property	536	2,349
Vandalism	1,448	4,404
Weapons	787	3,110
Prostitution and commercialized vice	3	736
Sex offenses (except rape and prostitution)	221	849
Drug abuse violations	3,174	22,516
Gambling	3	379

Offenses against family and children	29	1,500
Driving under the influence	166	14,439
Liquor laws	1,264	12,309
Drunkenness	171	10,341
Disorderly conduct	2,639	16,476
Vagrancy	---	385
All other offenses (except traffic)	3,099	25,699
Curfew and loitering law violations	50	50
Runaways	1,141	1,141

Juveniles¹¹

Drug use in 1995 in South Carolina by 6th through 12th graders, by drug type:

Marijuana

Grade	Past 30 days	Past 12 months	Ever used
6 th	1.5%	2.0	2.3
7 th	3.6%	4.8	5.9
8 th	8.0%	11.4	12.5
9 th	12.9%	18.6	20.2
10 th	17.0%	24.2	26.1
11 th	22.6%	30.9	34.5
12 th	19.8%	30.9	35.7

Hallucinogens

Grade	Past 30 days	Past 12 months	Ever used
6 th	0.2%	0.2	0.3
7 th	0.5%	0.6	0.8
8 th	1.9%	2.5	3.0
9 th	2.4%	4.0	5.1
10 th	3.5%	5.3	5.6
11 th	4.1%	6.3	8.6
12 th	3.9%	5.9	7.2

Heroin/Opiates

Grade	Past 30 days	Past 12 months	Ever used
6 th	0.3%	0.4	0.6
7 th	0.3%	0.6	0.9
8 th	1.6%	1.9	2.4
9 th	1.0%	1.8	2.2
10 th	1.6%	3.1	3.8
11 th	2.2%	3.9	4.6
12 th	2.1%	4.2	4.6

Cocaine/Crack

Grade	Past 30 days	Past 12 months	Ever used
6 th	0.3%	0.3	0.4
7 th	0.5%	0.5	0.6
8 th	1.1%	1.7	2.2
9 th	1.0%	2.2	2.6
10 th	1.5%	1.9	2.6
11 th	1.6%	3.2	4.1
12 th	0.5%	2.2	3.1

Alcohol

Grade	Past 30 days	Past 12 months	Ever used
6 th	11.0%	18.9	34.6
7 th	15.3%	28.5	43.3
8 th	21.3%	37.7	54.8
9 th	34.5%	52.2	67.7
10 th	38.4%	59.1	72.6
11 th	41.9%	64.0	79.7
12 th	44.7%	65.6	80.2

Please note, this survey has not been updated. 1996 is the most current release. Both surveys including this one done by the state and the following one done by CDC, were done with entirely different samples

- 32.4 percent of 8th, 10th and 12th graders used cigarettes in the last 30 days (1995).

Initiating behaviors of high school students.¹²

South Carolina 1997	Tried marijuana before age 13			Tried cocaine before age 13*		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
	6.2	13.9	10.1	.9	1.7	1.4

*Including powder, “crack,” or “freebase” forms of cocaine.

High school students’ reports of illicit drug use.¹²

South Carolina 1997	Lifetime marijuana use*			Current marijuana use			Marijuana use on school property**		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
	39.8	49.7	44.7	21.5	31.4	26.5	3.4	9.6	6.6

*Ever used marijuana.

**During the 12 months preceding the survey.

High school students’ reports of illicit drug use.¹²

South Carolina 1997	Lifetime cocaine use*			Current cocaine use¶			Lifetime “crack” or “freebase” use§		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
	4.7	6.1	5.4	2	2.6	2.4	2.9	3.7	3.3

*Ever tried any form of cocaine, including powder, “crack,” and “freebase.”

¶Used cocaine one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.

§Ever used “crack” or “freebase.”

High school students’ reports of illicit drug use.¹²

South Carolina	Lifetime illegal steroid use			Current Injected drug use			Sniffed or inhaled intoxicating substances		
1997	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
	3.2	5.3	4.3	1.2	2.4	1.9	16.6	17.6	17.1

Enrollment in South Carolina Public Schools: ¹³

Grade	Male	Female	Total
Kindergarten	25,529	23,732	49,261
Primary (Grades 1-3)	82,633	77,540	160,173
Elementary (Grades 4-8)	135,732	127,869	263,601
High School (Grades 9-12)	94,135	321,163	659,298
Total Enrollment	338,135	321,163	659,298

School crime incidents: ¹⁴

Top 10 Crimes (in frequency)	1996-1997	1997-1998
Disturbing Schools	2176	2690
Pagers	797	1103
Weapon Possession	786	970
Drug Violations	810	940
Larceny/Theft	592	655
Vandalism	503	618
Aggravated assault	598	596
Threatening School Officials	353	539
Burglary/B&E	405	363
Liquor Violations	149	265

Crimes disrupting school order, 1997-1998: ¹⁴

Disturbing Schools	2690
Drugs	940
Gambling	9
Liquor	265
Pagers	1103
Pornography	12
Weapons	970
Total	5991

Trends in drug crime school incidents: ¹⁴

1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994	1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997	1997-1998
164	170	307	457	724	810	940

Law Enforcement¹⁰

Full-time state law enforcement employees, October 1997.

Agency	Number of law enforcement employees				
	Total	Officers		Civilians	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Highway Patrol	1,128	887	24	86	131
Other state agencies	667	397	65	50	155

Full-time law enforcement employees, 1997.

	Number of law enforcement employees				
	Total	Officers		Civilians	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
250 agencies	11,261	7,852	795	882	1,732

Treatment⁹

- Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services spent \$25.2 million on alcohol and other drug treatment in FY 1997.

Trends in drug treatment admissions:

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Drug clients (total)	7,655	7,130	7,355	7,694	9,043	10,898	11,165	12,634
Marijuana	2,310	1,752	1,393	1,530	1,900	2,995	3,831	4,564
Cocaine	4,108	4,221	4,971	5,012	6,062	6,670	6,304	6,661
Heroin	416	406	345	377	310	377	362	371

Corrections

Profile of inmate population (as of June 1998)¹⁵

Number of inmates	21,700
Average sentence length*	12 years, 6 months
Black	65%
White	28%
Male	94%
Female	6%
Black Female	4%
White Female	2%
Average age	33 years

* Excludes life, death shock incarceration and youth sentences.

Most serious offense for inmate population (as of June 1998)¹⁵

Dangerous drugs	23%
Burglary	16%
Homicide	13%
Robbery	12%
Assault	8%
Sexual assault	---
Larceny	---

- South Carolina spends 48% of its total justice system expenditures on corrections; more than any other state in the nation.⁹
- In 1997, incarceration in South Carolina cost a total of \$291 million. Drug offenders made up 23% of those inmates, accounting for more than \$67 million in incarceration costs.⁹
- Average cost per inmate (as of June 1998): \$13,845¹⁵
- South Carolina's Department of Corrections spent \$330,857,437 in state appropriations, federal funds, special revenues, Prison Industries, and canteen funds in FY 97-98.¹⁶
- The South Carolina Department of Corrections currently operates 32 prisons statewide, maintaining custody of over 21,000 inmates, utilizing 3 security levels.¹⁶
- South Carolina had 73 prisoners under the sentence of death in April 1998. There were 34 white prisoners, 38 black, and 1 Native American.¹⁶
- South Carolina has executed 175 prisoners since 1930 and 13 since 1977 after capital punishment was reinstated in the United States.¹⁷
- There were 2 executions in South Carolina in 1997 and 7 prisoners were executed in 1998. Both were by way of lethal injection.¹⁵
- Inmates in drug treatment programs totaled 284 on January 1, 1997. Drug tests cost \$1.60 per sample. South Carolina utilized 7 drug dogs in the prisons.⁴
- 60% of all inmates have not completed high school. 29% read below 6th grade level.¹⁵
- Juvenile delinquents confined in State facilities rose 81.9% between 1985 and 1995.⁴

Drug-related Data⁹

- In 1996, alcohol was a factor in 394 highway fatalities in South Carolina.
- Alcohol and drug use account for 54% of deaths for those aged 15-24.
- Of the 938 new AIDS cases reported in the state in 1996, 1/4 involved injection drug use.
- According to the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse services, substance abuse costs South Carolina \$2.5 billion annually.
- Alcohol and other drug diagnoses accounted for \$30.9 million: 24% of emergency room charges and 10% of hospital discharge costs among high utilizers of care in 1996.

Sources used in this profile:

- ¹ U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau Web site:
<http://www.census.gov>
- ² State of South Carolina Web site: <http://www.state.sc.us/>
- ³ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, *Annual Report Fiscal Year 1997*, September 1998.
- ⁴ U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, *State Efforts to Reduce Substance Abuse Among Offenders*, October 1998.
- ⁵ Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site:
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/prevent/drugfree.html>
- ⁶ U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, *Crime and Justice Atlas*, June 1998.
- ⁷ South Carolina Department of Public Safety, Office of Safety and Grants, *South Carolina Drug Control and System Improvement Program Formula Grant Application Federal Fiscal Years 1997-1999: State Strategy*, January 1997.
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1997*, 1998. Table provided by the US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration and adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.
- ⁹ Drug Strategies, *South Carolina Profile: Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs*, 1998.
- ¹⁰ U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, *Crime in the United States, 1997 Uniform Crime Reports*, November 1998.
- ¹¹ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, *South Carolina Treatment Needs Assessment: Student Survey*, July 1996.
- ¹² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance — United States, 1997*, August 1998.
- ¹³ South Carolina Department of Education Web site:
<http://www.state.sc.us/sde/reports/fact98.htm>
- ¹⁴ South Carolina Department of Education Web site:
<http://www.state.sc.us/sde/reports/crime98/overview.htm>
- ¹⁵ South Carolina Department of Corrections annual report for FY 1997-98.
- ¹⁶ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1997*, 1998. Data provided by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.
- ¹⁷ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Capital Punishment 1997*, December 1998.

Charleston, South Carolina

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Demographics¹

Total population (1990):	80,414
White:	46,023
Black:	33,439
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut:	92
Asian or Pacific Islander:	685
Other race:	175

Charleston is the second largest city in South Carolina with an estimated 1998 population of 100,122. Between 1980 and 1990 Charleston grew 15 percent while the nation as a whole grew 9.8 percent. The City's growth is due to the annexed lands in West Ashley, James Island, Johns Island and the Cainhoy Peninsula. The Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Area encompasses three counties: Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester. In 1990, the population of this tri-county region was 506,875. More than 95 percent of the region's growth during the past ten years occurred in the Metro Charleston area. The projected population growth to the year 2015 is an additional 600,000 for the tri-county area.²

Geography²

The City of Charleston is located on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean at the juncture of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers. Occupying 88.14 square miles, Charleston has 7.6 square miles of a vital downtown which is home to the City's central business district. Over half of the City's population lives in West Ashley and James Island which lies just to the west of the Peninsula.

Politics²

Mayor:	Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
Council Members:	Richard C. "Duke" Hagerty
	Kwadjo Campbell
	James Lewis, Jr.
	Robert M. Mitchell
	Maurice G. Washington
	Wendell G. Gilliard
	Louis L. Waring
	Yvonne D. Evans
	Paul Tinkler
	Larry D. Shirley
	Greg S. Hart
	G. Robert George

Chief of Police: Reuben M. Greenberg

Programs/Initiatives³

- **Project Shadow:**

Developed by the Charleston Police Department, this program strives to drive drug dealers out of neighborhoods by disrupting their business. Uniformed officers are used to follow dealers as a form of community policing the drug markets. In effect, the officers “shadow” the dealers.

Crime

Offenses known to the police, 1997⁴

Population	78,867
Crime Index total	8,459
Murder	10
Rape	59
Robbery	378
Aggravated assault	762
Burglary	1,021
Larceny-theft	5,516
Motor vehicle theft	713
Arson	11

Drugs involved in drug law arrests for 1997 calendar year:⁵

Drug Category	County of Charleston*
Cocaine	1,215
Heroin	45
Marijuana	1,565
Hallucinogen	5
Other Drugs	30
Totals	2,860

*The city of Charleston is located in the county of Charleston.

Alcohol and drug related arrests for the 1997 calendar year:⁵

Drug Category	County of Charleston
Drug Law	2,860
Paraphernalia	805
Disorderly	1,143
DUI	1,118
Public Drunk	503
Alcohol	1,565

*The city of Charleston is located in the county of Charleston.

Law Enforcement⁴

- Charleston has 447 full-time law enforcement employees; 338 are officers and 109 are civilians.

Treatment

Treatment admissions for all ages by primary problem:⁶

Total Admissions 1996-1997	Alcohol	Any Drug	Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin	Related Collateral	Total Admissions
County of Charleston 1997-1998*	1,424	1,398	654	570	128	245	3067

*The city of Charleston is located in the county of Charleston.

Treatment admissions by level of care:⁷

	Total Admissions	County of Charleston*
Total Intervention	243	1
Total Outpatient	26,107	2,265
Total Detox	4,287	655
Total Residential	1,039	165
Opioid, Methadone and Other Drug Maintenance	95	73
Total Admissions	31,726	3,159

*The city of Charleston is located in the county of Charleston.

Sources used in this report:

- ¹ U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau Web site <http://www.census.gov>
- ² City of Charleston, South Carolina Web site:
<http://www.charleston.net/charlestoncity/figures.html#livable>
- ³ State Strategies, *South Carolina Profile: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs*, 1998.
- ⁴ US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 1997 Uniform Crime Reports*, November 1998.
- ⁵ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, special data run February 1999.
- ⁶ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, “*Admissions to Treatment Services by Primary Problem Date of Admission = July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1998.*”
- ⁷ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, “*Admissions to Treatment Services by Level of Care Date of Admission = July1, 1997 through June 30, 1998,*” November, 1998

Current as of 2/5/99

Columbia, South Carolina

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Demographics¹

Total Population (1990):	98,052
White:	52,625
Black:	42,837
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut:	341
Asian or Pacific Islander:	1,399
Other race:	850

Geography²

Columbia became the capitol of South Carolina in 1786. As the largest city in South Carolina, Columbia has a population of 103,477. Greater Columbia, which includes Lexington, West Columbia, and Irmo, has a population exceeding 550,000.

Politics³

Mayor:	Bob Cobble
Council Members:	E.W. Cromartie, II Frannie Heizer Hamilton Osborne, Jr. Jim Papadea Anne Sinclair Sam Davis
Chief of Police:	Charles P. Austin, Sr.

Funding⁴

- For Fiscal Year 1997, Columbia received \$400,000 in discretionary awards (Byrne and other funding) for the Comprehensive Communities Program—Phase IIB

Programs/Initiatives⁵

- Drugs Destroy Dreams:
Implemented in 1990, this program has focused on black youth, grades 6 through 12, involved with drugs. These youth are referred from family court, the juvenile justice system and schools to the program. The program includes pairing youth with adult mentors, parent workshops, and referrals to alcohol and other drug treatments. The Columbia location currently has approximately 40 youth in the program. This program receives funding from South Carolina's Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, the city of Columbia, and the Department of Public Safety.
- Omega Therapeutic Community:
The Omega Therapeutic Community is an alcohol and other drug treatment, voluntary, all male program for youth in the juvenile justice system. This is a

yearlong program requiring a year of follow-up services. Thus far, 24 youth have been released from the facility and 2 have reentered the juvenile justice system. Omega is supported by a grant from the South Carolina Department of Public Safety.

- Columbia Restitution Center:

Drug offenders and other criminals may be routed through the program to pay restitution to their victims, as well as court fees and fines. This program houses offenders and offers job placement. Paychecks go towards room, board and commuting costs for the program, with remaining funds given to the victims or the court.

- The Bridge:

In 1994 South Carolina's Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services in conjunction with the Department of Juvenile Justice implemented this program. Adolescents are enrolled for an intensive, one-year program of assessment, case management and continuing care in order to cut costs by facilitating an offender's return home from juvenile facilities. Evaluations have found thus far that 17% of clients receiving services beyond assessment have been reincarcerated, and 74% of program graduates continue to abstain from drug and alcohol use. Federal block grants and state appropriations fund the program, which costs \$2,110 per year for each participant.

- Working Together Project:

In the Greater Columbia area, the Department of Social Services implemented this program in 1991 in order to reduce infant abandonment, drug abuse, and child abuse and neglect. Most services are done directly in the home, geared toward the entire family. Since its inception, over 250 adults and 221 children have been served by the Working Together Project.

Crime

Offenses known to the police, 1997.⁶

Population	107,181
Crime Index total	12,102
Murder	12
Rape	64
Robbery	507
Aggravated assault	1,082
Burglary	1,623
Larceny-theft	7,985
Motor vehicle theft	829
Arson	37

Drugs involved in drug law arrests for the 1997 calendar year:⁷

Drug Category	County of Richland*
Cocaine	730
Heroin	38
Marijuana	1,195

Hallucinogen	1
Other Drugs	19
Totals	1,984

*The city of Columbia is located in the county of Richland.

Alcohol and drug related arrests for 1997 calendar year:⁷

Drug Category	County of Richland*
Drug Law	1,984
Paraphernalia	19
Disorderly	1,130
DUI	838
Public Drunk	1,779
Alcohol	1,262

*The city of Columbia is located in the county of Richland.

Law Enforcement⁶

- Columbia has 321 full-time law enforcement employees; 284 are officers and 37 are civilians.

Treatment

Treatment admissions for all ages by primary problem:⁸

Total Admissions 1996-1997	Alcohol	Any Drug	Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin	Related Collateral	Total Admissions
County of Richland 1997-1998*	17,561	9970	5318	3521	422	4888	32,423
	1,249	1,026	586	261	48	69	2,344

*The city of Columbia is located in the county of Richland.

Treatment admissions by level of care:⁹

	Total Admissions	County of Richland*
Total Intervention	243	1
Total Outpatient	26,107	1,595
Total Detox	4,287	593
Total Residential	1,039	141
Opiod, Methadone and Other Drug Maintenance	95	0
Total Admissions	31,726	2,330

*The city of Columbia is located in the county of Richland.

Sources used in this report:

- ¹ U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
- ² Senic Web site for Columbia, South Carolina:
<http://www.ricommunity.com/SCENIC/Tourism/columbia.htm>
- ³ City of Columbia, South Carolina Web site: <http://www.columbiasc.net/>
- ⁴ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, *Annual Report Fiscal Year 1997*, September 1998.
- ⁵ State Strategies, *South Carolina Profile: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs*, 1998.
- ⁶ US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 1997 Uniform Crime Reports*, November 1998.
- ⁷ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, special data run February 1999.
- ⁸ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, “*Admissions to Treatment by Type Problem, Date of Admission: July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1998.*”
- ⁹ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, “*Admissions to Treatment Services by Level of Care Date of Admission = July1, 1997 through June 30, 1998,*” November, 1998

Current as of 2/4/99

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